What is claimed is:

1. A therapeutic composition having plaque formation inhibiting activity, comprising a plaque formation inhibiting effective amount of a tetracycline in a liquid vehicle.

2. The therapeutic composition of claim 1, wherein said tetracycline has not been chemically modified to eliminate antimicrobial efficacy.

3. The therapeutic composition of claim 1, wherein said therapeutic composition is devoid of a morpholinoamino alcohol or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. The therapeutic composition of claim 1, wherein said liquid vehicle comprises at least 35% alcohol by volume.

5. The composition of claim 4, wherein said liquid vehicle further comprises a mixture of two or more of thymol, menthol, eucalyptol and methylsalicylate.

6. The composition of claim 1, wherein said tetracycline is doxycycline.

7. A method of reducing plaque formation on teeth of a mammal, comprising brushing said teeth a composition comprising a plaque formation inhibiting effective amount of a tetracycline in a liquid vehicle.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said mammal is a human.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein said tetracycline is doxycycline.

10. A method of reducing tooth decay in a mammal, comprising

brushing said teeth with a composition comprising a tooth decay inhibiting effective amount of a tetracycline in a liquid vehicle.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said mammal is a human.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said tetracycline is doxycycline.

13. A kit, comprising a tetracycline, a liquid vehicle for said tetracycline, and instructions for use of said tetracycline and liquid vehicle for brushing teeth with said tetracycline and liquid vehicle.

14. The kit of claim 13, wherein said tetracycline is doxycycline.